



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q67419

Hiroshi TOMARU, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/002,156

Group Art Unit: 3713

Confirmation No.: 2261

Examiner: Christina M. Marks

Filed: December 05, 2001

For: RACING GAME MACHINE AND METHOD OF
ESTABLISHING SPECIAL RACE THEREIN

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 14, 2004, please consider the remarks as submitted herewith on the accompanying pages.

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, all the claims pending in the application, stand rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nagao et al (6,394,898) in view of NHL Faceoff (Sony Computer Entertainment) and further in view of Dickinson et al (6,224,485). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

The Examiner has repeated verbatim the text of the rejection from the Office Action dated May 16, 2003. Accordingly, Applicants' comments distinguishing the invention from the cited reference, especially Dickinson, on the basis of (1) registration of a player's name in advance and (2) selective establishment of a special race as one of a plurality of races, continued to be valid.